[12th July 1952

A.—(a) to (c) The particulars are not readily available. They have to be gathered and compiled for each district. The work will involve considerable time and labour in several offices and will not be commensurate with the purpose served.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III.—GOVERNMENT MOTION.

REVISION OF THE ORDER OF VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1952-53.

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I beg to move—

'*That the Demands for Grants for the year 1952-53 be taken up in the order as set out below :—*

(1) *Demand XXIX—Famine.*
(2) ,, *VIII—Irrigation.*
(3) ,, *IX—Heads of States, Ministers and Head-quarters Staff.*
(4) ,, *XI—District Administration and Miscellaneous.*
(5) ,, *II—State Excise Duties.*
(6) ,, *XIV—Police.*
(7) ,, *XV—Education.*
(8) ,, *XVI—Medical.*
(9) ,, *XXI—Industries.*
(10) ,, *XVII—Public Health.*
(11) ,, *IV—Forest.*
(12) ,, *XXIII—Harijan Uplift.*
(13) ,, *XXVIII—Electricity.*
(14) ,, *XX—Co-operation.*
(15) ,, *VI—Motor Vehicles Act.*

and the rest of the Demands for Grants be taken up in the order in which they appear in the Notice, dated the 23rd June 1952.' I have made a small alteration in the order as given in the Notice paper. After item No. 8, Medical, item 10, 'XXI—Industries' comes as item 9, and then Public Health follows as item 10. Sir, it is not as if the other Demands won't be coming up before the House at all. At a Conference of the Leaders of various parties, it was agreed that these Demands should be taken up in the order mentioned and that other Demands should come up in the order in which notice has been given. Therefore, there need not be any apprehension that the other Demands won't be coming up before the House."

12th July 1952]

Mr. SPEAKER :—" The change introduced by the Hon. the Finance Minister is this—

'That item No. 9 will become item No. 10 and item No. 10 will become item No. 9.'
I take it that nobody objects to the change.

" I now put the Hon. the Finance Minister's motion as altered by him to the vote of the House."

The motion was put and carried.

IV.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 1952–53.

(1) DEMAND XXIX—FAMINE.

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :— " Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move— 11 a.m.

'That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 48,000 under Demand XXIX—Famine.'

" I will briefly explain the Demand. This Demand has been given precedence over all other Demands, because famine is now engaging the attention of all the people. The famine for which this Demand is made is not like the famine which we used to have all these years. This is a famine coming after five years of continuous drought, and naturally the technique of relief operations has to be changed. The technique of work is changed from time to time to suit the circumstances in all walks of life—war, Government, politics and even in the working of Opposition parties. To tackle this famine successfully, a particular technique has to be adopted. In ordinary famines, the distress was alleviated by putting into operation the Madras Famine Code. But the relief operations for the present extraordinary famine have to take a different form. Under the provisions of the Famine Code, relief could not be extended to all. Therefore we had to resort to a method under which relief could be extended to all the people affected by famine. There is an undue amount of rigidity in the Famine Code which we could not afford to follow. There is expense involved in relief operations and works have to be taken up with reference to the actual need of the locality. It involves the employment of a separate staff at great cost. Then again, roads formed by famine labour are often left uncared for as they are not really required for local conditions, and the local bodies whose duty it is to maintain them, are not in a position to undertake their maintenance. The present policy is to carry out works of permanent utility, works which form part of the normal programme, viz., P.W.D. works, minor irrigation works, rural water-supply works, etc., to provide employment for labourers in distress who are paid on the basis of outturn. Under the Famine Code, only a bare subsistence can be given. But now we are giving a wage of Re. 0-12-0 to Rs. 1-8-0 per adult per day. Again, gratuitous relief